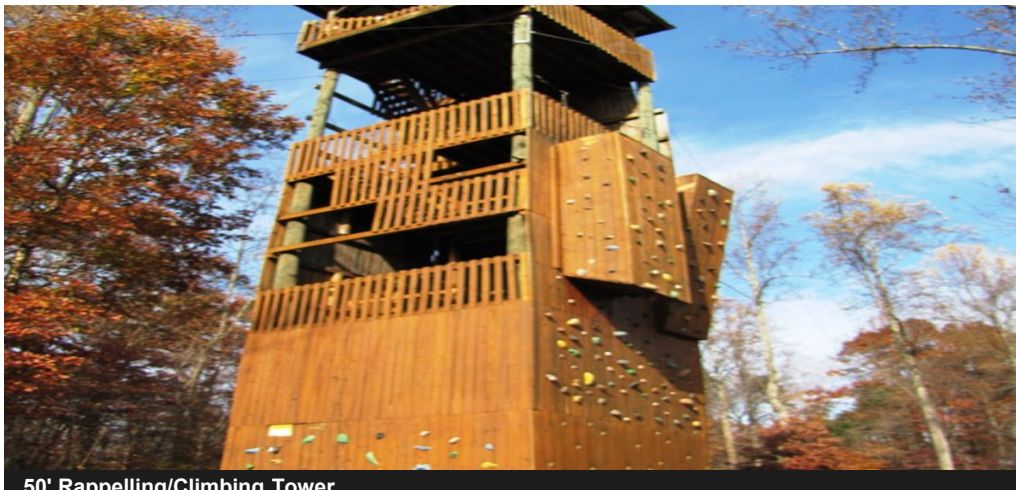


OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER



Program Guide

2015



50' Rappelling/Climbing Tower

Zip Into Spring

Come tour the Outdoor Education Center and enjoy zipping into spring on one of our zip lines for **FREE**. Guided tours will depart every 30 minutes and will visit our climbing tower, nature trails, team building activities, Adirondack cabins, tent camping area, & picnic shelters.

FREE! March 14th, 1pm - 6pm

Rockin Saturdays

Join us on select Saturdays from May – September for climbing on our climbing tower from 1pm till 3pm. We will cover one new skill related to climbing each session ex. (knots, climbing technique, and belaying.) \$10.00 per session, pre-registration required.

Canoe Trips

Sunset Canoe - Join us on select Saturdays from June – August for canoeing at Stumpy Creek Park 6pm till 8pm. We will cover one new skill related to canoe for example paddle strokes and canoe safety each session. \$10.00 per session, pre-registration required.

Canoe Days - Enjoy a float down some of our great local water ways. Trips will be between 5 and 8 miles of scenic rivers in our area. Cost is \$35 per session, and includes transportation and canoe equipment. Pre-registration required.

South Fork River: July 25th and Yadkin River: August 22nd

Project Aquatic WILD Workshop

Aquatic WILD is a K-12 aquatic wildlife-based education program that fosters responsible actions toward wildlife and other natural resources. Participants will receive the Aquatic WILD activity guide and qualify for CEUs and EEC credits. This program is **FREE** thanks to the NC wildlife department. June 24, 9am– 4pm. Pre-registration required.

Great American Backyard Campout

Not sure how to camp out? Join us June 27at 5pm and we will cook out, enjoy a fire pit, and tell camp stories as part of this nation wide event. Cost is \$30 for a family of 4 to camp in one of our Adirondack shelters or \$20 to pitch one of our tents. Dinner and camp fire snacks are included.

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"The staff at the Iredell Outdoor Education Center always go above and beyond for my group. They tailor the program to fit the needs and goals of the group to a tee. They are very creative and always "check in" with me to make sure they are on the right page. Good time had by all!"

- Mitzie McCurdy



Adirondack Shelter

What is a Ropes Challenge Course?

A ropes challenge course usually consist of initiative games, low elements, and high course elements. Initiative games are problem-solving activities located on the ground. They require brainstorming, problem solving, and many other team-building skills. Low course elements are also problem-solving activities which take place on the ground or only a few feet above the ground. They can be more physically challenging. The high course elements require a belay for safety and are considered high adventure activities. They focus more on individual accomplishments that require team support.

Iredell County has operated a ropes challenge course since 1984, when ropes challenge course programming was just in the beginning stages. In 1997, we developed our current facility on approximately 45 beautiful acres of mature hardwood forest in Mooresville, NC.

The Outdoor Education Center has an extensive variety of low course elements, two high courses featuring 2 zip lines, one 400' and another 500'. Our facilitators are trained and experienced professionals, who are passionate about the groups we serve and the programs we provide. Iredell County Parks & Recreation is an institutional member of the Association for Challenge Course Technology, following standards for installation, inspection, and operations.

Nature Explorer Programs

Have you ever wondered about some of the critters and plants that live around us here in Iredell County? If so join us for our new Nature Explorer programs. We will hold one each month starting in May and running through October. Nature Explorers will take a hands-on approach to teaching environmental education to young children ages 5 to 11. Adults are also welcome to participate along with their explorer. Each program will last about 1-1/2 hours, include park exploration, and a take home craft to remember your exploration.



Nature explorers learning about trees

Bats - May 2nd, 7:30pm - 9pm \$5

This program is an education into the lives of our favorite flying mammal, BATS! Learn how bats find their food and how much they can eat along with many other fun batty facts!

Trees - June 6th, 10am - 11:30am \$5

Leaves come in many shapes and sizes. Join us on a hike through the Outdoor Education Center as we identify the native trees, leaves, and a few other plants.

Creek Study - July 11th, 10am - 11:30am \$5

Ever look into a small creek and see no living critters? Explore our creek as we show you not all empty looking bodies of water are what they appear and how you can protect this natural resource.

Animal Tracks - August 1st, 10am - 11:30am \$5

Come out and join us as we explore the Outdoor Education Center for tracks, scat, and other signs of wildlife. Learn to identify native wildlife by its tracks. Select an animal track that you like, and make a plaster cast to take home as a memento.

Scavenger Hunt - September 12th, 10am - 11:30am \$5

Come out and join us as we explore the Outdoor Education Center for exciting creatures, plants, and other wonders of our local natural world. How many items on the list will you find?

Birds of Prey - October 10th, 10am - 11:30am \$5

Come out and learn from a local falconer about birds of prey and meet one of his birds.



Canoeing our local water ways

For more Information on our programs or to register please give us a call at 704.878.3103 or visit our website at www.co.iredell.nc.us/departments/recreation/oec.aspx

The Iredell County Outdoor Education Center is located at 204 Bluefield Rd., Mooresville, NC.